## Message Text

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**ACTION EA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 SAM-01 ACDA-07 DHA-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9264

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EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS

SUBJECT: HCIR RESOLUTION ON DMZ INCIDENT AND MYONGDONG

SENTENCES

REF: (A) STATE 217257, (B) SEOUL 6979

- 1. SUMMARY: MOFA VICE MINISTER EXPRESSED OFFICIAL ROKG VIEW THAT HCIR RESOLUTION HAD GONE TOO FAR AND WAS FORM OF INTERFERENCE IN ROK INTERNAL AFFAIRS. DCM STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF ROKG GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO SENTIMENTS CONVEYED IN SECRETARY'S AUGUST 30 NOTE ON HUMAN RIGHTS. END SUMMARY.
- 2. MOFA VICE MINISTER YUN HAS JONG CALLED DCM IN SEPTEMBER 3 TO EXPRESS OFFICIAL ROKG VIEWS RE HCIR RESOLUTION. HE FIRST EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HUMMEL'S STATEMENT BEFORE HCIR SUBCOMMITTEE, WHICH HE SAID INDICATED CLEARLY USG ACTIONS RE PANMUNJOM INCIDENT AND USG DETERMINATION TO STAND FAST IN KOREA.
- 3. VICE MINISTER THEN EXPRESSED "REGRET" THAT SUBJECT RESOLUTION WAS PASSED ON SAME DAY AS HUMMEL'S TESTIMONY. YUN SAID ROKG WAS "SOMEWHAT SHOCKED AT ITS CONTENTS", CONFIDENTIAL

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CHARACTERIZING IT AS AN OFFICIAL CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENT

WHICH "INTERFERED WITH ROK INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND ROK COURTS." HE ADDED THAT ALTHOUGH US-ROK RELATIONS CANNOT BE SHAKEN BY SUCH MEASURES, RESOLUTION COULD CAUSE MISUNDERSTANDING AND LEAD TO FURTHER MISUNDERSTANDING.

- 4. YUN ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERNTHAT IF RESOLUTION PASSED BY FULL HOUSE, IT WOULD IMMEDIATELY AFFECT UN DEBATE, SINCE NORTH KOREAN SUPPORTERS WOULD EXPLOIT IT FOR OWN BENEFIT. HE WENT ON TO LANGUAGE OF PART ONE OF RESOLUTION, SAYING THAT ROKG WAS ALSO CONCERNED WITH THE USE OF TERM "DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIVAIOF KOREA" IN RESOLUTION. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT ROKG DID NOT VIEW CONDEMNATION OF NORTH AS STRONG ENOUGH. HE EXPRESSED HOPE USG WOULD TAKE STEPS TO HALT PASSAGE OF THIS MEASURE, SAYING "WE WANT TO STOP IT WHERE IT IS".
- 5. YUN CLOSED BY SAYING RESOLUTION AND FOREGOING POINTS HAD DRAWN VERY SERIOUS ATTENTION IN ROKG.
- 6. DCM RESPONDED THAT US CONGRESS AND PUBLIC CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED WITH HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES IN KOREA AND THAT IN VIEW OF US CULTURE AND HISTORY, WE WILL HAVE TO CONTINUE TO CONVEY VIEWS ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO ROKG. IN RESPONSE TO YUN'S POINT THAT RESOLUTION MAY HAVE "GONE TOO FAR", DCM SAID EMBASSY WOULD CONVEY ROKG VIEW

TO DEPARTMENT. DCM EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IN RETURN, ROKG WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER SECSTATE'S NOTE OF AUGUST 30 TO ROK AMBASSADOR REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AS WELL AS SENTIMENT THAT EXISTS IN US, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE CONTINUING SOURCE OF FRICTION AS LONG AS DIFFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS EXISTS.

7. YUN STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES THAT RESOLUTION WAS MORE SPECIFIC THAN PAST SUCH EFFORTS AND THAT IT REPRESENTED INTERFERENCE IN ROK AFFAIRS, PARTICULARLY SINCE APPEAL PROCESS STILL NOT COMPLETE. DCM NOTED THAT ROKG EFFORT TO HAVE RESOLUTION AMENDED COULD ALSO BE INTERPRETED AS FORM OF INTERFERENCE IN US AFFAIRS.

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8. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ROKG OBVIOUSLY UNHAPPY WITH RESOLUTION, THE FACT IT TRANSMITTED ITS VIEWS AT VICE-MINISTER-DCM LEVELS INDICATES UNWILLINGNESS MAKE MATTER MAJOR ISSUE. END COMMENT. SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DMZ, MURDER, HUMAN RIGHTS, RESOLUTIONS, COURT DECISIONS, RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 SEP 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SEOUL 07032

Document Number: 1976SEOUL07032 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760334-1320

From: SEOUL

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760992/aaaadayz.tel Line Count: 112 Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ACTION EA Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 217257, 76 SEOUL 6979
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 28 MAY 2004

**Review Event:** 

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>

**Review Markings:** 

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**Review Media Identifier:** Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, KS, US To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006